

north from Bayou Sara and 11 miles south of the Mississippi line. The plant was in good fruit August 22 and 23 and is represented by my numbers 4312 and 4334 collected in company with Mr. Butler.

In Mohr's "Plant-Life of Alabama," this fern is listed from the mountain region of that state at 1,500 feet elevation and even as far north as Pennsylvania its distribution seems to be largely montane. To find it in Louisiana at less than 200 feet elevation is indeed surprising. However, in common with *Adiantum pedatum* L. and other plants of the same district it may be looked for in the hilly country of Western Mississippi to Vicksburg and beyond—doubtless the break in its distribution is actually much less than would at first appear.

UNIVERSITY OF PENNSYLVANIA.

A belated Maidenhair

L. S. HOPKINS

On last Thanksgiving morning (Nov. 28, 1912) while looking for late specimens of *Botrychia* at Cheswick, Allegheny Co., Pa., a small but vigorous plant of the common maidenhair (*Adiantum pedatum* L.) was found. As it is unusual to find the maidenhair at this season, it seems advisable to make a brief record of its occurrence.

The plant which was seemingly a young one bore eleven fronds ranging in size from small to medium. All of the fronds were green when collected, but two became somewhat brown in the process of drying. None bore fruit.

The records of the local weather bureau show that the freezing point or lower was reached nine times during November as follows: on the 2d, 3d, and 15th, 32°; on the 16th, 31°; on the 24th and 25th, 28°; on the 26th, 31°;

on the 27th, 28°; while the minimum on the 28th, the day the plant was taken, was 25°. The word day as here used means the weather bureau day extending from 8 P. M. to 8 P. M. The temperatures recorded by the local weather bureau, situated as it is in the very center of an industrial region whose furnaces are constantly liberating large quantities of heat, are from two to five degrees higher than surrounding territory.

The fern grew in a semi-protected position on the western side of a narrow wooded ravine whose general slope is toward the south. It was frozen solid seemingly when taken, but the frost had disappeared when it was removed from the vasculum in the afternoon. The trees were leafless and all except the hardy plants were killed.

How and why this particular plant was enabled to withstand temperatures which destroyed all of its kind and how much longer it might have survived are points over which one can only speculate.

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Notes and news

MR. CHESTER C. KINGMAN

Mr. Chester C. Kingman passed away January 30th, from an operation for appendicitis, at the age of 39. At one time he was very interested in ferns and enjoyed the rare privilege of collecting with Mr. Davenport. During the past six years, he spent most of his time studying and collecting bryophytes.

ELIZABETH M. DUNHAM